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CLAIM AMENDMENTS

1. (Currently Amended) An optical path-changing connector for optical connection to a first external component having a positioned member, ~~said the first external component being provided with~~ including one of optical waveguides ~~or~~ and optoelectronic converting elements arranged one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally, said optical path-changing connector comprising:

an optical path-changing device comprising:

a cladding having a first face, a second face, and at least one mirror surface;

and

a plurality of cores, each core having a first core end surface exposed at said first face and a second core end surface exposed at said second face, each ~~said~~ core constituting a continuous optical path extending from said first core end surface to said mirror surface, ~~being changed~~ changing in direction at said mirror surface, and extending to said second core end surface, wherein said first core end surfaces and said second core end surfaces are arranged one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally at said first face and said second face, respectively; and

a first positioning member positionally adjusted relative to optical axes of said first core end surfaces for positioning said first external component relative to said first core end surfaces by engaging ~~with said positioned~~ positioning member.

2. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 1, further comprising an exterior casing member ~~for~~ accommodating said optical path-changing device, wherein said optical path-changing device is accommodated in and fixed to said exterior casing member such that optical axes in said optical path-changing device are positionally adjusted and said first and second faces are exposed.

3. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 2, wherein said exterior casing member is ~~constructed so as to be~~ divided into a plurality of exterior casing member divisions.

4. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 3, ~~wherein~~ including an engaging portion ~~is formed~~ on at least one of said exterior casing member divisions and a receiving portion ~~is formed~~ on said optical path-changing device, said optical path-changing device being constructed such that optical axes therein are positionally adjusted by engagement between said engaging portion and said receiving

portion.

5. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 2, ~~wherein~~ including an optical path-changing device insertion aperture is disposed through said exterior casing member, wherein said optical path-changing device ~~being~~ is inserted into said optical path-changing device insertion aperture and fixed to said optical path-changing device insertion aperture such that said first and second faces are exposed and optical axes in said optical path-changing device are positionally adjusted.

6. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 2, wherein said first positioning member is ~~formed~~ on said exterior casing member.

7. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 6, further comprising a second positioning member positionally adjusted relative to optical axes of said second core end surfaces, wherein a second external component ~~provided with~~ including one of optical waveguides ~~or and~~ optoelectronic converting elements arranged one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally ~~is constructed so as to be optically connected for optical connection~~ to said second core end surfaces by ~~means of~~ said second positioning member.

8. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 7, wherein said second positioning member is ~~formed~~ on said exterior casing member.

9. (Original) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 7, further comprising an elastic fastening member for elastically fastening said second external component in an optically connected state.

10. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 1, wherein said first positioning member is ~~formed~~ on said first face of said optical path-changing device.

11. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 10, further comprising a second positioning member positionally adjusted relative to optical axes of said second core end surfaces, wherein a second external component ~~provided with~~ including one of optical waveguides ~~or and~~ optoelectronic converting elements arranged one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally ~~is constructed so as to be optically connected for optical~~

connection to said second core end surfaces by ~~means of~~ said second positioning member.

12. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 11, wherein said second positioning member is ~~formed on said~~ on said second face of said optical path-changing device.

13. (Original) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 11 further comprising an elastic fastening member for elastically fastening said second external component in an optically connected state.

14. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 1, wherein a second external component ~~provided with~~ including one of optical waveguides ~~or~~ and optoelectronic converting elements arranged one-dimensionally or two-dimensionally is mounted to said second face of said optical path-changing device ~~so as to be~~ and positionally adjusted relative to optical axes in said optical path-changing device.

15. (Currently Amended) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 1, ~~wherein~~ including a microlens ~~is~~ fixed to at least one of said first and second faces.

16. (Original) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 1, further comprising a mounting seat for fastening.

17. (Original) The optical path-changing connector according to Claim 1, further comprising an elastic fastening member for elastically fastening said first external component in an optically connected state.